

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



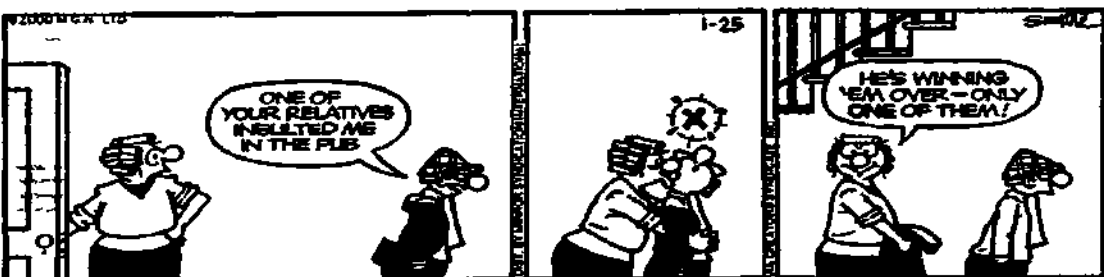
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



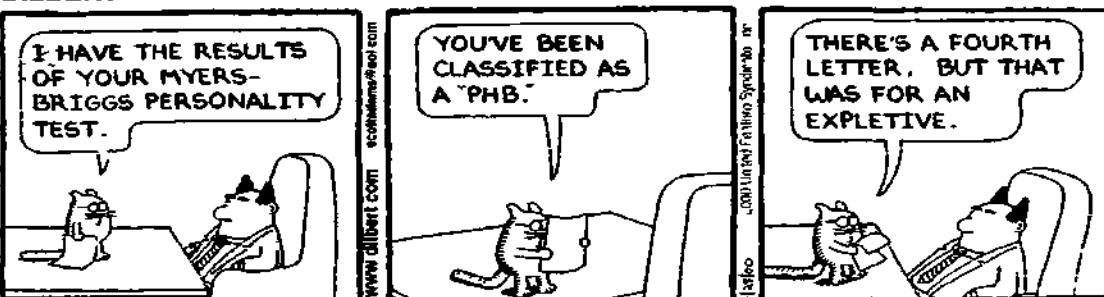
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



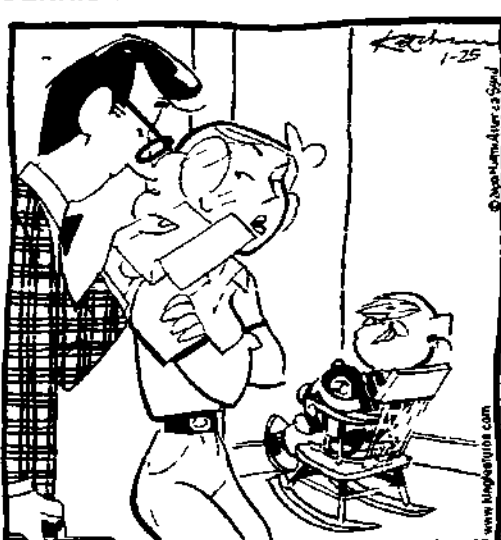
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Journalist-author Edwin Newman is 81 Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze is 72 Actor Dean Cain is 69 Corazon Aquino, former Philippines president is 67 Blues singer Etta James is 62 Movie director Tobo Hooper is 57 Actress Leigh Taylor-Young is 56 Actress Dinah Manoff is 42 Country musician Mike Burch (River Road) is 34 Actress China Kantner is 29

I NEED HELP



Mac Johnson's celebration was short-lived when it was discovered that instead of winning this year's race, he was just finishing last year's race.

SCRABBLE

SCRABBLE is a registered trademark owned by Hasbro, Inc. in Canada by Mattel.

U	R	G	B	E	O	S	2nd Letter Triple
E	R	P	E	I	M	E	2nd Letter Double
A	S	L	O	R	E	O	2nd Letter Double
S	I	L	W	N	H	S	Triple Word Score

PAR SCORE 175-185
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers) JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 1-28-00 © 2000 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

WORDS CONTAINING A DIRECTION

LEBYVSPMJHEBYVT
QOLEIGDBYWTRPSM
KIFDNBYWUSSQLOM
KIFUNORTHODOXB
ZXWURRBRUSWQONL
JHRFDEETSEWFCAY
YYTEAHHTSEWENWV
ETSSTPTQTSADIMP
ANTUASLKREEIHFE
SCOWBEAZYOWRWVU
TSAELSFERQNPBNM

Monday's related clue: PEARLS

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Tuesday's related clue hint: MAKES BREAD RISE

Best	Fewest	Newest	Southpaw
Brassbone	Least	Norther	Unorthodox
East	Lowest	Slowest	Western
Feast	Midwest	Souther	

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, Jan. 26

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Be generous with your time as well as your material possessions today.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Although it seems though your life has been stuck in a rut lately things are turning around.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You feel good and have a lot of extra energy to share with loved ones today.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) It might be necessary to work out a family issue today before you concentrate on business.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Speak, and you shall be heard!
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Be very careful about making impulse purchases today.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) The moon is in your house and nothing can go wrong today.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) It might be a good idea to put off important business deals until later in the week.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have the admiration of friends and family members today as the moon moves into the house of Libra.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) A new project may provide you with an opportunity to advance.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Talking to strangers may bring about some interesting and enlightening conversations.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Focus your attention on mending a broken relationship today.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

South took his club ace and immediately began a black-suit crossruff. He ruffed a club in dummy and cashed dummy's top spades. Next, he ruffed a spade and ruffed another club. With the lead in dummy he suddenly realized he was in trouble. With no way back to his hand for another club ruff, there was no reprieve. When he led a low diamond from dummy East won his queen to lead a trump, and South could win only 11 tricks. To make his slam, South should rely on dummy's long diamond suit instead of immediate crossruffs. At trick two he should lead his singleton diamond. If West has the ace and wins it, South enjoys a discard and can choose between following a crossruff plan and establishing dummy's diamonds. When dummy's diamond king goes to East's ace, and East returns a trump, dummy wins the trump switch, and South ruffs a diamond. He ruffs a club in dummy to ruff another diamond, and uses dummy's last trump to ruff another club. One more diamond ruff establishes dummy's diamonds, and South draws the remaining trumps, discarding dummy's low spade. Dummy is now solid, and a spade to dummy gives South 12 tricks and his slam bonus.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ A 5	♠ K J 9 7	♠ 10 7 4 3 2	
♠ 10 9 5	♠ A J 10 8	♠ 7 4	
WEST		SOUTH	
♠ K Q J 8 6	♠ 7 2	♠ A Q 10 6 5 4 3	
♠ K J 6 3	♠ 7 4	♠ A Q 8	
♠ 7 4		♠ K Q 9 2	

Vulnerable Both
Dealer: East

The bidding:
East 1 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠
West 5 ♠ All pass

Opening lead: Spade king

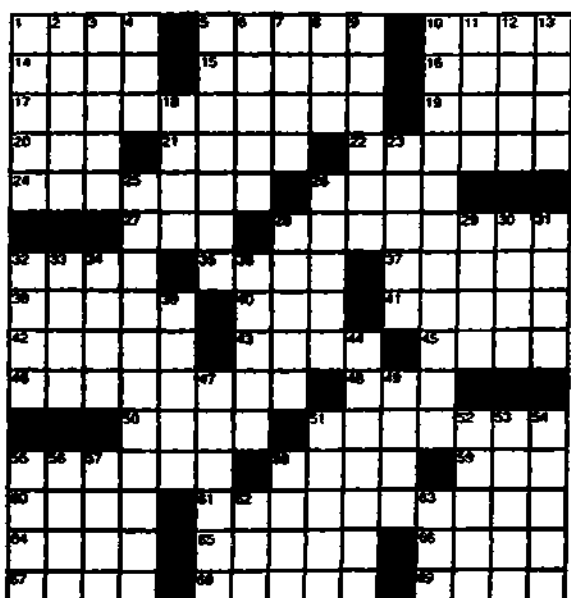
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1214

- ACROSS**
- Georgia
 - Seven time A.L. batting champ
 - Architect of St. Paul's Cathedral
 - Plus end
 - Mortgage consideration
 - Christo, notably
 - Concerning
 - Perce (Western tribe)
 - Postal workers have them
 - Abbr.
 - Very uneven
 - Shipboard functionary
 - Part of beauty pageant attire
 - Stat for 5-Across
 - Certain sneakers
 - Interstate hauler
 - It sometimes thickens
 - Impede legally
 - Factory
 - "What Kind of Fool" (1962 hit)
 - Part of a subway entrance
 - Friend in a sombrero
 - Kind of room
 - Pre-owned
 - I.R.A. renewal
 - Little toymaker
 - New Haven collegians
 - Cold symptom
 - Result of wronging
 - Couple
 - Alamos
 - It's rounded up in a roundup
 - Take train stations by force?
 - "Picnic" playwright
 - Giving goosebumps
 - Carpet layer's calculation
 - "D"
 - Hans Christian Andersen and others
 - Slothful
- DOWN**
- Villages
 - Protected bird
 - Beane Babies, e.g.
 - With it, in the 50's
 - Travel on a road
 - Chopped in
 - 18 Louises
 - CBS's Bradley and others
 - Symbol of impress
 - Asplane wings, propellers, etc.
 - Phoned
 - To be, in Toulouse
 - Penury
 - Israhel relations
 - "Angela's" _____
 - Laundry cycle supervisor?
 - Protestor's play

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LANA DADA LITER
IRON IGOR EARTH
SKATES ON THIN ICE
TSHIRT TIE WHO
CEES ELEE
GOES IN HARM'S WAY
APRIL AM STENOY
STAPH HEW ARGUE
PITIES NAP SNA
COURT DISASTER
SEEP LYRE
ALP LIT CACHED
WALKS AT NIGHTROPE
EMAIL ERIE ERIC
DANDY SEND TACK



Puzzle by Richard Chiklos

- ACROSS**
- If You Knew (Eddie Cantor favorite)
 - Fauna's partner
 - Golf pro Nancy
 - Emerson work
 - Golf shot
 - It's NE of Tahoe
 - Therefore
 - Hollywood's Bruce or Laura
 - Actor Stephen
 - Jazz guitarist
 - Farlow

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-800-426-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1-888-7 ACROSS.